Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 FEA-01

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FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7125
INFO USERDA GERMANTOWN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIALIAEA VIENNA 1374

O 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, OCON, IAEA, TECH, PARM, UR, US

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH SOVIETS ON FEBRUARY MEETING

OF IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

PASS IO/SCT

REF: IAEA VIENNA 1212

1. IN ADDITION TO TRILATERAL SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT (REFTEL) FOLLOWING TOPICS WERE DISCUSSED 2/16 CONSULTATION BETWEEN US AND SOVIET MISSIONS.

(A) US SAFEGUARDS FINANCING PROPOSAL: IN GENERAL, SOVIETS SUPPORTED PURPOSES OF US PROPOSED RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD ACHIEVE TIMELY AND RELATIVELY SIMPLE SOLUTION TO AN OLD PROBLEM AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, AVOID NEED FOR CONVENING A SAFEGUARDS COMMITTEE. SOVIETS DID HAVE SOME PRELIMINARY RESERVATIONS ON POLITICAL RATHER THAN ON FINANCIAL GROUNDS; PRINCIPALLY, A CONCERN THAT PROPOSED FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS MIGHT SET A PRECEDENT WHICH COULD AFFECT MEMBERS' ASSESSMENTS IN OTHER ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN CONFIDENTIAL

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THE UN SYSTEM. SOVIETS ALSO WONDERED WHETHER

QUESTION MIGHT BETTER BE ADDRESSED AT ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE IN CONTEXT OF OVERALL AGENCY BUDGET FOR 1977.

US SIDE INDICATED WIDESPREAD FAVORABLE REACTION
US PROPOSAL HAD RECEIVED IN VIENNA AND EXPLAINED
THE TACTICAL ADVANTAGE OF DISPOSING OF PROBLEM AT
FEBRUARY BOARD RATHER THAN TO INTRODUCE US PROPOSAL
AT A&B COMMITTEE WHERE IT WOULD BE CONSIDERED IN
CONTEXT OF TARGET FOR VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION FOR
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND OF INCREASED COSTS FOR
SAFEGUARDS IN 1977.

IT WAS AGREED TO CONTINUE CONSULATIONS ON THIS QUESTION.

(B) UK RESOLUTION ON SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENTS: US SIDE INFORMED SOVIETS US WOULD CO-SPONSOR UK RESOLUTION WHICH IT VIEWED AS A USEFUL MEANS OF PREPARING SECRETARIAT IN ADVANCE FOR POSSIBLE APPROACH TO AGENCY BY NON PARTY TO NPT WHICH WISHED TO PLACE ALL ITS NUCLEAR FACILITIES UNDER IAEA SAFEGUARDS.

SOVIETS CONFIRMED THAT THEY WOULD SUPPORT UK PROPOSAL BUT NO DECISION HAD BEEN MADE AS TO CO-SPONSORSHIP. IF SOVIETS DID NOT CO-SPONSOR, IT WOULD BE FOR TACTICAL REASONS; I.E. IT WOULD MAKE IT EASIER FOR THE RESOLUTION TO BE WITHDRAWN, IF NECESSARY.

(C) US DOCUMENT ON SAFEGUARDS PRINCIPLES:
SOVIETS EXPRESSED THEIR CONTINUING CONCERN WITH
WHAT THEY VIEWED AS TENDENCY ON PART OF SECRETARIAT
TO MAKE UNJUSTIFIED CONCESSIONS IN SAFEGUARDS
NEGOTIATIONS, PARTICULARLY WITH DURATOM AND WITH
JAPAN. IN GENERAL, THEY AGREED WITH CONTENTS OF
US PAPER ON SAFEGUARDS PRINCIPLES. AGENCY
NEGOTIATORS SHOULD BE REMINDED OF US AND SOVIET
CONCERNS.
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SOVIETS INQUIRED RE OUR VIEWS ON ESTABLISHMENT OF A EURATOM SECTION IN INSPECTORATE, COMMENTING THAT SUCH A SECTION SHOULD BE STAFFED BY EXPERIENCED PERSONNEL WHO WERE NATIONALS OF NPT PARTIES. US SIDE REPLIED IT HAD NO VIEWS OF THIS SUBJECT AT PRESENT.

FINAL PRE-BOARD CONSULTATIONS WITH SOVIETS, LED
BY MOROKHOV, SCHEDULED FOR 2/23. WILL REPORT
FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS, TAPE

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Message Attributes

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